

Glossary

Administrative Access. A route that allows access for purposes of maintenance or operation.

Allotment Management Plan (AMP). A concisely written program of livestock grazing management, including supportive measures, if required, designed to attain specific management goals in a grazing allotment.

Allotment. An area of land in which one or more livestock operators graze their livestock. Allotments may consist of a variety of federally managed, state owned, and private lands. An allotment may include one or more separate pastures.

Analysis of the Management Situation (AMS). Assessment of the current management direction. It includes a consolidation of existing data needed to analyze and resolve identified issues, a description of current BLM management guidance, and a discussion of existing problems and opportunities for solving them.

Archaeological Permittee. A professional archaeologist, consultant, or contractor who holds a BLM Cultural Resource Use Permit.

Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC). An area within public lands where special management attention is required to protect and prevent irreparable damage to important historic, cultural, or scenic values, fish and wildlife resources, or other natural systems or processes, or to protect life and safety from natural hazards (from H-6310-1, Wilderness Inventory and Study Procedures).

Animal Unit Month (AUM). The amount of forage needed by an Animal Unit grazing for one month (AUM). The animal unit in turn is defined as one mature 1,000-pound cow and her suckling calf.

Backcountry Byways. Vehicle routes that traverse scenic corridors utilizing secondary or backcountry road systems. National backcountry byways are designated by the type of road and vehicle needed to travel the byway.

Big Game. Indigenous ungulate wildlife species that are often hunted, such as elk, deer, bison, bighorn sheep, and pronghorn antelope.

Candidate species. Taxa for which the USFWS has sufficient information on their status and threats to support proposing the species for listing as endangered or threatened under the ESA but for which issuance of a proposed rule is currently precluded by higher priority listing actions. Separate lists for plants, vertebrate animals, and invertebrate animals are published periodically in the Federal Register (from M6840, Special Status Species Manual) (from M6840, Special Status Species Manual).

Carrying capacity. The maximum population or level of activity that can be supported without degradation of the habitat or the population.

Class I Inventory. A professionally prepared study that includes a compilation and analysis of all reasonably available cultural resource data and literature.

Class II Inventory. A professionally conducted, statistically-based sample survey designed to aid in characterizing the probable density, diversity, and distribution of cultural properties within a large area.

Class III Inventory. A professionally conducted, continuous, intensive pedestrian survey of an entire project area aimed at locating and recording all cultural resources.

Clean Air Act of 1963 (CAA) and Amendments. Federal legislation governing air pollution control.

Closed. Generally denotes that an area is not available for a particular use or uses; refer to specific definitions found in law, regulations, or policy guidance for application to individual programs. For example, 43 CFR 8340.0-5 sets forth the specific meaning of “closed” as it relates to off highway vehicle use, and 43 CFR 8364 defines “closed” as it relates to closure and restriction orders (from H-1601-1, BLM Land Use Planning Handbook).

Common Reservoir. All or part of any oil or gas or oil and gas field that comprises and includes any area that is underlaid or that, from geological or other scientific data or experiments or from drilling operations or other evidence, appears to be underlaid by a *common pool or accumulation* (emphasis added) of oil or gas or oil and gas (Texas Natural Resources Code 1978).

Condition of Approval (COA). A condition or provision (requirement) under which an Application for a Permit to Drill or a Sundry Notice is approved.

Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ). An advisory council to the President of the United States established by the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969. It reviews Federal programs to analyze and interpret environmental trends and information.

Cross-Country travel. Travel between designated routes.

Critical Habitat. An area occupied by a threatened or endangered species “on which are found those physical and biological features (1) essential to the conservation of the species, and (2) which may require special management considerations or protection.”

Crucial winter range. That part of the overall range where 90 percent of the individuals are located during the average five winters out of ten from the first heavy snowfall to spring green-up, or during a site-specific period of winter as defined for each Colorado Division of Wildlife Data analysis unit.

Cultural Landscape. All physical remains of past human occupation in their original setting within a defined geographical area.

Cultural resource or cultural property. A definite location of human activity, occupation, or use, normally greater than 50 years of age, identifiable through field inventory, historical documentation, or oral evidence. The term includes archaeological, historic, or architectural sites, structures, places, or sites or places with important public and scientific uses, and may include definite locations (sites or places) of traditional cultural or religious importance to specified social and/or cultural groups. Cultural resources are concrete, material places and things that are located, classified, ranked,

and managed through the system of identifying, protecting, and utilizing for public benefit described in laws, regulations, and the BLM Manuals.

Definite location. Having discernable, map-able, limits or boundaries, on a scale that can be established through observations on surface expression.

Designated routes. Specific routes identified by the BLM (or other agencies) where some type of motorized vehicle use is appropriate and allowed either seasonally or yearlong (H- 601-1, BLM Land Use Planning Handbook).

Disposal. Transfer of public land out of Federal ownership to another party through sale, exchange, or land law statutes.

Drainage. Where lands in any leases are being drained of their oil and gas content by wells either on a Federal lease issued at a lower rate of royalty or on non-Federal lands, the lessee shall both drill and produce all wells necessary to protect the leased lands from drainage. *Compensation for drainage:* Upon lands owned by the United States being drained of oil or gas by wells drilled on adjacent lands, agreements may be executed with the owners of adjacent land whereby the United States and its lessees shall be compensated for such drainage. Such lands may also be offered for lease (43CRF, part 3100.2).

Easement. A right afforded a person or agency to make limited use of another's real property for access or other purposes.

Eligibility. Qualification of a river for inclusion into the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System through the determination (professional judgment) that it is free-flowing and, with its adjacent land area, possesses at least one river-related value considered to be outstandingly remarkable (from M-8351, BLM WSR Policy and Program).

Endangered Species. Any species, which is in danger of extinction throughout all, or a significant portion of its range (from M6840, Special Status Species Manual).

Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). A detailed statement prepared by the responsible official in which a major Federal action which significantly affects the quality of the human environment is described, alternatives to the proposed action provided, and effects analyzed (from BLM National Management Strategy for OHV Use on Public Lands).

Extensive Recreation Management Area (ERMA). A public lands unit identified in land use plans containing all acreage not identified as a SRMA. Recreation management actions within an ERMA are limited to only those of a custodial nature. (H-1601-1, BLM Land Use Planning Handbook).

Extirpation. To cause a species to go extinct. To exterminate.

Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA). Public Law 94-579, October 21, 1976, often referred to as the BLM's Organic Act, which provides the majority of the BLM's legislated authority, direction policy and basic management guidance (from BLM National Management Strategy for OHV Use on Public Lands).

Fire Regime Condition Class (FRCC). Fire Regime Condition Classes are a measure describing the degree of departure from historical fire regimes, possibly resulting in alterations of key ecosystem components such as species composition, structural stage, stand age, canopy closure, and fuel loadings. One or more of the following activities may have caused this departure: fire suppression, timber harvesting, livestock grazing, introduction and establishment of exotic plant species, introduced insects or disease, or other management activities.

Fire Suppression. All work activities connected with fire extinguishing operations, beginning with discovery of a fire and continuing until the fire is completely out.

Fluid Minerals. Oil, gas, coal bed natural gas, carbon dioxide, and geothermal resources.

Functioning at Risk. (1) Condition in which vegetation and soil are susceptible to losing their ability to sustain naturally functioning biotic communities. Human activities, past or present, may increase the risks. (2) Uplands or riparian-wetland areas that are properly functioning, but a soil, water, or vegetation attribute makes them susceptible to degradation and lessens their ability to sustain natural biotic communities. Uplands are particularly at risk if their soils are susceptible to degradation. Human activities, past or present, may increase the risks (from H-4180-1, BLM Rangeland Health Standards Manual).

Habitat. An environment, which meets a specific set of physical, biological, temporal, or spatial characteristics that satisfy the requirements of a plant or animal species or group of species for part or all of their life cycle.

Historic property. Any prehistoric or historic site, district, building, structure, or object included in, eligible, or potentially eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places.

Intermittent Stream. An intermittent stream is a flowing system under normal weather conditions. During the dry season and throughout minor drought periods, these streams will not exhibit flow. Geomorphological characteristics are not well defined and are often inconspicuous. In the absence of external limiting factors (pollution, thermal modifications, etc.), biology is scarce and adapted to the wet and dry conditions of the fluctuating water level.

Isolated Find: A physical location of past human activity consisting of one or very few artifacts in a location that is interpreted as not representing patterned human behavior. The Colorado Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation guidelines state that "Typically, isolated finds are transportable artifacts representing a single activity; by definition they are not eligible to the National Register of Historic Places." Recording the location and nature of isolated finds is considered to realize the information potential of this class of cultural resource. An Isolated Find in the Monument is defined as ten (10) or fewer artifacts in a 30 meter diameter area.

Landscape character: The combination of physical, biological and cultural attributes that gives an area its visual and cultural identity. Each attribute contributes to the uniqueness of the landscape and gives a particular place meaning and value and helps to define a sense of place. Landscape character provides a frame of reference from

which to determine scenic attractiveness and to measure scenic integrity and scenic sustainability.

Land Tenure adjustments. Ownership or jurisdictional changes are referred to as Land Tenure Adjustments. To improve the manageability of the BLM lands and improve their usefulness to the public, BLM has numerous authorities for repositioning lands into a more consolidated pattern, disposing of lands, and entering into cooperative management agreements. These land pattern improvements are completed primarily through the use of land exchanges, but also through land sales, jurisdictional transfers to other agencies, and through the use of cooperative management agreements and leases.

Land Use Plan (LUP). A set of decisions that establish management direction for land within an administrative area, as prescribed under the planning provisions of FLPMA; an assimilation of land-use-plan level decisions developed through the planning process outlined in 43 CFR 1600, regardless of the scale at which the decisions were developed. The term includes both RMPs and MFPs. (from H-1601-1, BLM Land Use Planning Handbook).

Lease. Section 302 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA) provides the BLM's authority to issue leases for the use, occupancy, and development of the public lands. Leases are issued for purposes such as a commercial filming, advertising displays, commercial or noncommercial croplands, apiaries, livestock holding or feeding areas not related to grazing permits and leases, harvesting of native or introduced species, temporary or permanent facilities for commercial purposes (does not include mining claims), residential occupancy, ski resorts, construction equipment storage sites, assembly yards, oil rig stacking sites, mining claim occupancy if the residential structures are not incidental to the mining operation, and water pipelines and well pumps related to irrigation and non-irrigation facilities. The regulations establishing procedures for the processing of these leases and permits are found in 43 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 2920.

Limited. Designated areas and trails where the use of off-road vehicles is subject to restrictions, such as limiting the number or types of vehicles allowed, dates and times of use (seasonal restrictions), limiting use to existing roads and trails, or limiting use to designated roads and trails. Under the designated roads and trails designation, use would be allowed only on roads and trails that are signed for use. Combinations of restrictions are possible, such as limiting use to certain types of vehicles during certain times of the year (from BLM National Management Strategy for OHV Use on Public Lands).

Limited Access Route. A route restricted from general public use. Limited routes include administrative access allowing access for purposes of maintenance or operation; private land access; and temporary access used for a defined period of time such as during the operation of an oil and gas well, then closed once the use is complete.

Locatable Minerals. Minerals subject to exploration, development, and disposal by staking mining claims as authorized by the Mining Law of 1872, as amended. This includes deposits of gold, silver, and other uncommon minerals not subject to lease or sale.

Mechanized travel. Travel using self-propelled bicycles. This is sometimes included in the definition of non-motorized but making the distinction is often important.

Mineral. Any naturally formed inorganic material, solid or fluid inorganic substance that can be extracted from the earth, any of various naturally occurring homogeneous substances (as stone, coal, salt, sulfur, sand, petroleum, water, or natural gas) obtained for man's use, usually from the ground. Under Federal laws, considered as locatable (subject to the general mining laws), leasable (subject to the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920), and salable (subject to the Materials Act of 1947).

Mineral Estate. The ownership of minerals, including rights necessary for access, exploration, development, mining, ore dressing, and transportation operations.

Mineral Materials. Materials such as sand and gravel and common varieties of stone, pumice, pumicite, and clay that are not obtainable under the mining or leasing laws, but that can be acquired under the Materials Act of 1947, as amended.

Mining Claim. A parcel of land that a miner takes and holds for mining purposes, having acquired the right of possession by complying with the Mining Law and local laws and rules. A mining claim may contain as many adjoining locations as the locator may make or buy. There are four categories of mining claims: lode, placer, millsite, and tunnel site.

Motorized travel. Travel that uses some form of motorized vehicles, including OHM (i.e., off-highway motorcycles), OHV (i.e., ATVs), and/or four-wheel and two-wheel drive full-size vehicles.

Multiple use. The management of the public lands and their various resource values so that they are utilized in the combination that will best meet the present and future needs of the American people; making the most judicious use of the land for some or all of these resources or related services over areas large enough to provide sufficient latitude for periodic adjustments in use to changing needs and conditions; the use of some land for less than all of the resources; a combination of balanced and diverse resource uses that takes into account the long-term needs of future generations for renewable and nonrenewable resources, including, but not limited to, recreation, range, timber, minerals, watershed, wildlife and fish, and natural scenic, scientific and historical values; and harmonious and coordinated management of the various resources without permanent impairment of the productivity of the land and the quality of the environment with consideration being given to the relative values of the resources and not necessarily to the combination of uses that will give the greatest economic return or the greatest unit output (FLPMA) (from M6840, Special Status Species Manual).

National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. A system of nationally designated rivers and their immediate environments that have outstanding scenic, recreational, geologic, fish and wildlife, historic, cultural, and other similar values and are preserved in a free-flowing condition. The system consists of three types of streams: (1) recreation—rivers or sections of rivers that are readily accessible by road or railroad and that may have some development along their shorelines and may have undergone some impoundments or diversion in the past, (2) scenic—rivers or sections of rivers free of impoundments with shorelines or watersheds still largely undeveloped but accessible in places by roads, and (3) wild—rivers or sections of rivers free of impoundments and

generally inaccessible except by trails, with watersheds or shorelines essentially primitive and waters unpolluted.

Nonfunctioning Condition. (1) Condition in which vegetation and ground cover are not maintaining soil conditions that can sustain natural biotic communities. (2) riparian and wetland areas are considered to be in nonfunctioning condition when they do not provide adequate vegetation, landform, or large woody debris to dissipate stream energy associated with high flows and thus are not reducing erosion, improving water quality, or other normal characteristics of riparian areas. The absence of a floodplain may be an indicator of nonfunctioning condition. (See also Properly Functioning Condition and Functioning at Risk [from H-4180-1, BLM Rangeland Health Standards Manual]).

Non-motorized travel. Travel not using a form of machinery, such as foot (hiking) or horseback riding.

No Surface Occupancy (NSO). Under this restriction the BLM would not allow any ground disturbing activities from oil and gas leases.

No Ground Disturbance (NGD). Under this restriction the BLM would not allow any ground disturbing activities.

Off-Highway Vehicle (OHM). Off-highway motorcycle, otherwise called dirt bikes.

Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV). Any motorized vehicle capable of, or designed for, travel on or immediately over land, water, or other natural terrain, excluding: (1) any non amphibious registered motorboat; (2) any military, fire, emergency, or law enforcement vehicle while being used for emergency purposes; (3) any vehicle whose use is expressly authorized by the authorized officer, or otherwise officially approved; (4) vehicles in official use; and (5) any combat or combat support vehicle when used for national defense (H-1601-1, BLM Land Use Planning Handbook).

Off-road. Is defined as cross-country travel between designated routes.

Open. Areas where both cross-country and designated route travel is allowed by all types of vehicles, at all times, anywhere in the area, subject to the operating regulations and vehicle standards set forth in subparts 43 CFR 8341 and 8342. There are no open areas within the Monument.

Outdoor Museum Concept. A concept where Monument visitors can experience cultural and natural resources through self-discovery.

Outstandingly Remarkable Value (ORV). A value used in the determination of wild and scenic rivers and including "scenic, recreational, geological, fish and wildlife, historical, cultural, or other similar values..." Other similar values, which may be considered, include ecological, biological or botanical, paleontological, hydrological, scientific or research values (from M-8351, BLM WSR Policy and Program).

Ozone. A faint blue gas produced in the atmosphere from chemical reactions of such sources as burning coal, gasoline and other fuels, and chemicals found in products including solvents, paints, hairsprays, etc.

Perennial Stream. Perennial streams carry flowing water continuously throughout the year, regardless of weather conditions. They exhibit well-defined geomorphological characteristics and in the absence of pollution, thermal modifications, or other manmade disturbances have the ability to support aquatic life. During hydrological drought conditions, the flow may be impaired.

Permitted Use. The forage allocated by, or under the guidance of, an applicable land use plan for livestock grazing in an allotment under a permit or lease, and is expressed in Animal Unit Months (AUMs) (43 CFR § 4100.0-5) (from H-4180-1, BLM Rangeland Health Standards Manual).

Prehistoric Community. The collective physical remains or expressions of a cultural group's occupation and use of a geographical area during an established chronological period of time where residents had face-to-face contact with each other on a regular basis.

Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD). An air pollution-permitting program intended to ensure that air quality does not diminish in attainment areas.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation. Non-motorized, non-mechanized (except as provided by law), and undeveloped types of recreational activities. Bicycles are considered mechanical transport (from H-6310-1, Wilderness Inventory and Study Procedures).

Private Land Access. A route that crosses BLM administered lands but used for the purpose of accessing private land. These routes would generally be administered under a Right-Of-Way grant.

Proponent. An operator, commercial developer, or any other party or organization proposing an activity or use on BLM land.

Proper Functioning Condition (PFC). (1) An element of the Fundamental of Rangeland Health for watersheds, and therefore a required element of State or regional standards and guidelines under 43 CFR § 4180.2(b). (2) Condition in which vegetation and ground cover maintain soil conditions that can sustain natural biotic communities. For riparian areas, the process of determining function is described in the BLM Technical Reference TR 1737-9. (3) Riparian-wetland areas are functioning properly when adequate vegetation, landform, or large woody debris is present to dissipate stream energy associated with high water flows, thereby reducing erosion and improving water quality; filter sediment, capture bedload, and aid floodplain development; improve floodwater retention and groundwater recharge; develop root masses that stabilize stream banks against cutting action; develop diverse ponding and channel characteristics to provide the habitat and the water depth, duration, and temperature necessary for fish production, waterfowl breeding, and other uses; and support greater biodiversity. The functioning condition of riparian-wetland areas is influenced by geomorphic features, soil, water, and vegetation. (4) Uplands function properly when the existing vegetation and ground cover maintain soil conditions capable of sustaining natural biotic communities. The functioning condition of uplands is influenced by geomorphic features, soil, water, and vegetation.

Proposed Action/Plan. Alternative VI in this document which is a culmination of actions planned for implementation upon signing of the Record of Decision.

Public land. Land or interest in land owned by the United States and administered by the Secretary of the Interior through the BLM without regard to how the United States acquired ownership, except lands located on the Outer Continental Shelf, and land held for the benefit of Indians, Aleuts, and Eskimos (H-1601-1, BLM Land Use Planning Handbook).

Public routes. These routes are open to the public, but may be restricted in terms of the type of travel allowed. For example, there are motorized and non-motorized public routes.

Reasonable Foreseeable Development (RFD) Scenario. The prediction of the type and amount of oil and gas activity that would occur in a given area. The prediction is based on geologic factors, past history of drilling, projected demand for oil and gas, and industry interest.

Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (ROS). One of the existing tools for classifying recreation environments (existing and desired) along a continuum ranging from primitive, low-use, and inconspicuous administration to urban, high-use, and a highly visible administrative presence. This continuum recognizes variation among various components of any landscape's physical, social and administrative attributes; and resulting descriptions (of existing conditions) and prescriptions (of desired future conditions) define recreation setting character. See BLM Manual Section 8320 for more detailed discussion (from M-8351, BLM WSR Policy and Program).

Recreational Shooting. Recreation shooting consists of target shooting, also called plinking, involving paintballs, air guns, bullets, bows and arrows and any other ammunition shot at bottles, cans, clay pigeons, natural features or other targets. Recreation shooting does not include hunting, which is an authorized use in the Monument managed by the Colorado Division of Wildlife.

Resource Management Plan (RMP). A land use plan as prescribed by the Federal Land Policy and Management Act that establishes, for a given area of land, land-use allocations, coordination guidelines for multiple-use, objectives, and actions to be achieved.

Right-of-Way (ROW). A situation in which, although a parcel of land has a specific private or public owner, some other party or the public at large has a legal right to traverse that land in some specified manner. Public lands are often authorized to be used or occupied for specific purposes pursuant to a right-of-way grant, which are in the public interest and which require rights-of-way over, upon, under, or through such lands.

Riparian Area. The area of transition between permanently saturated wetlands and upland areas. Riparian areas exhibit vegetation or physical characteristics that reflect the influence of permanent surface or subsurface water. Typical riparian areas include lands along, adjacent to, or contiguous with perennially and intermittently flowing rivers and streams, glacial potholes, and the shores of lakes and reservoirs with stable water levels.

Road. A named county route of travel.

Rock Art. Petroglyphs (carvings) or pictographs (paintings) used to depict history and culture.

Rotation. The movement of livestock between pastures in an allotment for the permitted time.

Route. A group or set of roads, trails and primitive roads that represent less than 100% (excludes non-designated routes) of the BLM transportation system. In general, components of the transportation system are described as routes.

Scenic Byways. Highway routes, which have roadsides or corridors of special aesthetic, cultural, or historic value. An essential part of the highway is its scenic corridor. The corridor may contain outstanding scenic vistas, unusual geologic features, or other natural elements.

Scenic River. A river or section of a river that is free of impoundments and whose shorelines are largely undeveloped but accessible in places by routes. A definition used in determining Wild and Scenic Rivers designations.

Season of Use. The time during which livestock grazing is permitted on a given range allotment, as specified in the grazing permit.

Section 106 consultation. Refers to consultation between the BLM (or other federal agency), the Colorado State Historic Preservation Officer, tribes, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act following procedures specified in 36 CFR 800 or the State Protocol Agreement.

Settlement Cluster. Numerous sites located in proximity to each other.

Site. A physical location of past human activity with evidence of purposeful or patterned human behavior beyond the level of one or very few accidentally deposited artifacts.

Special Recreation Management Area (SRMA). A public lands unit identified in land use plans to direct recreation funding and personnel to fulfill commitments made to provide specific, structured recreation opportunities (i.e., activity, experience, and benefit opportunities). Both land use plan decisions and subsequent implementing actions for recreation in each SRMA are geared to a strategically identified primary market—destination, community, or undeveloped. (H-1601-1, BLM Land Use Planning Handbook).

Special Recreation Permit (SRP). A permit required for any activity that is recreational in nature and involves groups of people. Generally, these permits are for guided recreation activities provided by outfitters to the public. These include guided river trips, hunting trips, and jeep tours. However, other commercial recreational activities such as advertising or selling food or merchandise would also require an SRP. Certain organized group events also require an SRP. An organized group event is a recreation event that is not commercial and is not competitive. Examples of organized group events

include scout campouts, club rides or hikes, church or company picnics, or large family reunions. Definitions can be found in 43 CFR 2931.2.

Split-Estate Lands: Lands where surface ownership differs from subsurface, such as private land surface ownership overlaying subsurface federal mineral rights.

Stand. A group of trees of sufficiently uniform species composition, age, and condition to be considered a homogeneous unit for management purposes.

Sustained Yield. The achievement and maintenance in perpetuity of a high-level annual or regular periodic output of the various renewable resources of the public lands consistent with multiple use and without impairment of the productivity of the land.

Temporary Access. A route used for a specific period of time such as during the operation of an oil and gas well, then closed once the use is complete.

Threatened Species. Any species, which is likely to become an endangered species within the foreseeable future throughout all, or a significant portion of its range (from M6840, Special Status Species Manual).

Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL). An estimate of the total quantity of pollutants (from all sources: point, nonpoint, and natural) that may be allowed into waters without exceeding applicable water quality criteria.

Traditional Cultural Property. A property that derives significance from traditional values associated with it by a social or cultural group such as an Indian tribe, or local community. A traditional cultural property may be eligible for the National Register of Historic Places if it meets the criteria and criteria exception in 36 CFR60.4.

Undertaking. A term defined in the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, "A project, activity, or program funded in whole or part, under the direct or indirect jurisdiction of a Federal agency, including those carried out by or on behalf of a Federal agency; those carried out with Federal financial assistance; those requiring a Federal permit, license, or approval; and those subject to State or local regulation administered pursuant to a delegation or approval by a Federal agency".

Valid Existing Rights. Any lease established (and valid) prior to a new authorization, change in land designation, or in regulation.

Visibility. A measurement of the ability to see and identify objects at different distances.

Visitor Day. Twelve visitor hours, which may be aggregated by one or more persons in single or multiple visits.

Visitor Use. A term used in recreation management to describe visitor use of a resource for inspiration, stimulation, solitude, relaxation, education, pleasure, or satisfaction.

Visual Resources. The visible physical features of a landscape (topography, water, vegetation, animals, structures, and other features) that constitute the scenery of an area.

Visual Resource Inventory Classes. Visual resource inventory classes are assigned through the inventory process. These are generally assigned based on a combination of scenic quality, sensitivity level, and distance zones. Inventory classes are informational in nature and provide the basis for considering visual values in the RMP process. They do not establish management direction and should not be used as a basis for constraining or limiting surface disturbing activities.

Visual Resource Management (VRM). The system by which BLM classifies and manages scenic values and visual quality of public lands. The system is based on research that has produced ways of assessing aesthetic qualities of the landscape in objective terms. After inventory and evaluation, lands are given relative visual ratings, which determine the amount of modification allowed for the basic elements of the landscape.

Visual Resource Management (VRM) Classes. Categories assigned to public lands based on scenic quality, sensitivity level, and distance zones. Visual resource management classes are assigned through RMPs. The assignment of visual management classes is ultimately based on the management decisions made in RMPs. There are four classes. Each class has an objective, which prescribes the amount of change allowed in the characteristic landscape (H-1601-1, BLM Land Use Planning Handbook).

Visual Resource Management Class I Objective. The objective of this class is to preserve the existing character of the landscape. This class provides for natural ecological changes; however, it does not preclude very limited management activity. The level of change to the characteristic landscape should be very low and must not attract attention.

Visual Resource Management Class II Objective. The objective of this class is to retain the existing character of the landscape. The level of change to the characteristic landscape should be low. Management activities may be seen, but should not attract the attention of the casual observer. Any changes must repeat the basic elements of form, line, color, and texture found in the predominant natural features of the characteristic landscape.

Visual Resource Management Class III Objective. The objective of this class is to partially retain the existing character of the landscape. The level of change to the characteristic landscape should be moderate. Management activities may attract attention but should not dominate the view of the casual observer. Changes should repeat the basic elements found in the predominant natural features of the characteristic landscape.

Visual Resource Management Class IV Objective. The objective of this class is to provide for management activities which require major modification of the existing character of the landscape. The level of change to the characteristic landscape can be high. These management activities may dominate the view and be the major focus of the viewer attention. However, every attempt should be made to minimize the impact of these activities through careful location, minimal disturbance, and repeating the basic elements.

Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs). Volatile organic chemicals that produce vapors readily, at room temperature and normal atmospheric pressure. Volatile organic chemicals include gasoline, industrial chemicals such as benzene, solvents such as toluene and xylene, and tetrachloroethylene (perchloroethylene, the principal dry cleaning solvent).

Wild River. Those rivers or sections of rivers that are free of impoundments and generally inaccessible except by trail, with watersheds or shorelines essentially primitive and waters unpolluted. These represent vestiges of primitive America and are a consideration when designating Wild and Scenic Rivers.

Wild, Scenic, and/or Recreational (WSR). The term used in this Manual Section for what is traditionally shortened to Wild and Scenic rivers. Designated river segments are classified, i.e., wild, scenic, and/or recreational, but cannot overlap (from M-8351, BLM WSR Policy and Program).

Wilderness Characteristics. Wilderness characteristics include size, the appearance of naturalness, outstanding opportunities for solitude, or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation. They may also include ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical value. Outstanding opportunities for solitude or primitive and unconfined types of recreation may be experienced when the sights, sounds, and evidence of other people are rare or infrequent, in locations where visitors can be isolated, alone or secluded from others, where the use of the area is through non-motorized, non-mechanical means, and where no or only minimally developed recreation facilities are encountered.

Wilderness Study Area (WSA). A designation made through the land use planning process of a roadless area found to have wilderness characteristics as described in Section 2(c) of the Wilderness Act of 1964 (from H-6310-1, Wilderness Inventory and Study Procedures).

Wilderness. A congressionally designated area of undeveloped federal land retaining its primeval character and influence, without permanent improvements or human habitation, that is protected and managed to preserve its natural conditions and that (1) generally appears to have been affected mainly by the forces of nature, with human imprints substantially unnoticeable; (2) has outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation; (3) has at least 5,000 acres or is large enough to make practical its preservation and use in an unimpaired condition; and (4) may also contain ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historic value. The definition contained in Section 2(c) of the Wilderness Act of 1964 (78 Stat. 891) (from H-6310-1, Wilderness Inventory and Study Procedures).

Wildfire. Unplanned human or naturally caused fires in wildlands.

Wildland fire. Any fire, regardless of ignition source, that is burning outside of a prescribed fire and any fire burning on public lands or threatening public land resources, where no fire prescription standards have been prepared (from H-1742-1, BLM Emergency Fire Rehabilitation Handbook).

Wildland fire use. The application of the appropriate management response to naturally-ignited wildland fires to accomplish specific resource management objectives in

pre-defined designated areas outlined in Fire Management Plans. Operational management is described in the Wildland Fire Implementation Plan (WFIP).